



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

tion apparently from West to East. The meteor was remarkable for its bright green color.

August 12th.

Vice-President WETHERILL in the Chair.

Dr. Leidy read a paper entitled "Contributions to Helminthology, No. 3," which was referred to Drs. Bridges, Watson, and Hallowell.

Dr. Fisher, in adverting to a suggestion made at a late meeting of the Academy, that it was probable that many of the insects which are destructive to various trees of this country, were periodical in their recurrence, resembling, in this respect, the Cicada septendecim, remarked that six or seven years since the black caterpillar, or canker worm, had been very destructive to the Elm trees at New Haven, but that since then they were comparatively rare. On a visit to New Haven this summer he found them again very numerous, and doing great injury.

August 19th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Dr. Leidy presented a paper, entitled, "*Conspectus Crustaceorum quæ in Orbis Terrarum circumnavigatione Carolo Wilkes e Classe Reipublicæ Fœderatæ duce lexit et descripsit J. D. Dana*;" which, on motion, was referred to the following Committee: Dr. Leidy, Dr. Bridges, and Dr. J. C. Fisher.

A letter was read from the "*Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Wien*," dated April 30th, 1851, in reference to the publications of that institution, announced this evening.

Dr. Fisher read a paper describing a new species of Cicada, named by him *C. Cassinii*, which, being intended for publication in the Proceedings, was referred to Dr. Ruschenberger, Mr. C. E. Smith, and Dr. Zantzinger.

Mr. Cassin read a paper intended for publication in the Proceedings, "Notes on the Cicada Cassinii, and on *C. septendecim*." Referred to the above Committee.

Mr. Cassin read a paper entitled "*Descriptions of Laniadæ*," intended for publication in the Proceedings. Referred to Col. G. A. McCall, Mr. Harris, and Dr. Watson.

Dr. Leidy called the attention of the members to several fragments of fossil ruminant ungulates, from Nebraska Territory.

One of these is the greater portion of a cranium, which, in its perfect condition, had been about 7 inches in length. For the examination of this he expressed his indebtedness to Dr. Hiram A. Prout, of St. Louis, who first pointed out the remains of a gigantic species of *Palæotherium*, from the same region in which the present fossil was obtained.

The teeth in the specimen are in a very much mutilated condition, but with

the aid of several fragments of upper maxillæ containing perfect teeth, from several other individuals of the same animal, received from the Smithsonian Institution, through Prof. Baird, the dentition in a great measure can be made out.

The teeth form nearly a continuous row, as in *Anoplotherium*, the only interval being one of $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch between the canine and the first premolar.

The canine is broken away, but judging from the fragment of the root, which is 4 lines in diameter antero-posteriorly, it was well developed. The anterior 3 premolars are too much broken to obtain any knowledge of their form. The fourth is like one-half of the true molars, and resembles closely the corresponding tooth of *Cervus*.

The 3 true molars have exactly the same form, and very nearly the size as the 2 posterior superior molars, described in the Proceedings of this Academy, Vol. iv. p. 47, as characterizing a genus under the name of *Merycoidodon*. From the latter fact it might be readily supposed that the fossil before us belonged to *Merycoidodon*, but a fragment of a face of a smaller animal now exhibited, received from Prof. Baird, contains the first and second true molars, mutilated, which have the same form as the corresponding teeth of the preceding fossil, but the fourth premolar has three cusps instead of two, like the former, indicating that we may have animals of different genera, with true molars identical in form.

Neither of these fossils Dr. L. suspected belonged to *Merycoidodon*, for in it the enamel of the teeth is rougher than in the former.

For the first he proposed the name of *Oreodon*.

The face of *Oreodon* has a remarkably cat-like expression, being depressed, and as broad between the malar bones as it is long. The orbits are closed posteriorly as in the ruminants, by the junction of the post-orbital process of the os frontis with that of the malar bone, and present outward, forward, and upward, less in the latter two directions than in the cats, but more so than in the ruminants.

Just anterior to the orbit is a remarkably large lachrymal depression or *larmier*, relatively several times larger than that of *Cervus virginianus*.

The glenoid cavity is a broad, extensive, nearly flat surface, as in the ruminants.

The posterior portion of the head, relative to the face, is very narrow, and resembles in its form the fragment of a cranium described in Vol. v. of the Proceedings, p. 90, as characteristic of a genus under the name of *Eucrotaphus*.

The temporal fossæ are as large as in the carnivora, and lead to the impression, with other characters given of the head, that flesh probably formed part of the food of the animal.

The species Dr. L. named *Oreodon priscum*.

Measurements.

Length of line of 3 true molars,	19½ lines.
“ “ 4 premolars,	20 “
Breadth of middle true molar,	8½ “
Diameter of orbit,	13 “
Breadth of face between malar bones, below the orbits, .	48 “
Length from same point to root of canine tooth, . . .	43 “
Breadth of cranium just anterior to the meat. aud. ext., .	26 “

Several fragments were then exhibited of a much smaller animal than the last, consisting of the greater part of the inferior and superior maxillæ, the latter containing the 4th premolar and the true molars perfect, having the same form as those of *Oreodon priscum*. To this species, the name of *Oreodon gracile* was given.

The posterior two inferior molars have the same form as the corresponding ones of *Merycoidodon*.

Measurements of O. gracile.

Line of inferior molars to root of canine, . . .	25½ lines.
Greatest breadth of inferior maxilla, below the posterior molar tooth,	16½ "
Line of superior molars,	26 "
" " true molars,	14 "
Greatest breadth of the middle superior true molar, . . .	5½ "

The fragment of a face before alluded to having the same form of the superior true molars as *Oreodon*, but differing from it in having 3 cusps to the fourth premolar, belonged to an animal very closely allied to the latter genus. It possesses the remarkably large lachrymal depression, which in this fossil appears to have been more hemispherical than in *Oreodon*. The depression being of such a striking character in *Oreodon* and in this genus, the name *Cotylops* was proposed for the latter. The only entire tooth preserved in the fragment of *Cotylops* is the third premolar, the crown of which is antero-posteriorly oblong, constricted in the middle so as to give in outline the form of 8. It has a single cusp, and presents an oval fossa about two lines long, postero-internally; and a heel or short tubercle antero-internally.

The species was named *Cotylops speciosa*.

Measurements.

Length of line of 1st and 2d superior true molars, . . .	10 lines.
" " 2d, 3d, and 4th premolars,	13 "
Antero-posterior diameter of 3d premolar,	4½ "
Greatest breadth of " "	2½ "
Diameter of lachrymal depression,	6¾ "
Depth " " " "	2¼ "

The fragment of cranium for which was proposed the name *Eucrotaphus*,* from its great resemblance to that of *Oreodon*, and its proportions, with the close alliance of *Oreodon* to *Merycoidodon*, Dr. L. suspected belonged to the latter genus.

August 26th.

Vice-President WETHERILL in the Chair.

The Committee on the following, by Dr. Leidy, reported in favor of its publication.

Helminthological Contributions.—No. 3.

By JOSEPH LEIDY, M. D.

Gen. Nov. SYNPLECTA.†

Body nematoid, cylindroid, distinctly and coarsely annulated. Head composed of two trilobed portions, between which is the mouth. Œsophagus

* Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., Vol. v. p. 90.

† συν together; πλέκω, I twine.